

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q73847

Kenji SHIMIZU, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/541,905

Group Art Unit: 1794

Confirmation No.: 6243

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: May 17, 2006

For: MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIUM, METHOD OF MANUFACTURING
THEREFOR, AND MAGNETIC READ/WRITE APPARATUS

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after

filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents (Decision to Grant a Patent issued on November 4, 2008 in Japanese Patent Application No. 2006-058144), together with an English-language version of at least that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations: Applicant is submitting an English-language abstract and a computer-generated translation for JP 2002-329305, which constitute a concise statement of the relevance of JP 2002-329305.

In addition, the listed JP 2004-63037 corresponds to U.S. Patent 7,141,315, and JP 2004-79058 corresponds to U.S. Patent 6,942,936.

Two of the documents cited in the Decision to Grant, namely, JP 2002-197635 and JP 2002-334424, were previously cited in the Information Disclosure Statements filed on May 31, 2006 and July 12, 2005, respectively. Copies of these documents are not being submitted at this time.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not

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waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

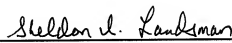
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Date: January 28, 2009


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